

those jobs, and I would offer to you that most economists will say that job creation is a public and private partnership. That is a very important issue.

I rise today, however, as, again, those who seek the Republican nomination for the Presidency of the United States will come before the American people this evening. They will present a number of issues. This time it will be jobs. I hope they will present themselves in a manner that acknowledges that anyone who has the privilege of serving serves on behalf of the American people. And the American people come from all backgrounds, and I respect that.

In particular, I'm going to ask the Governor of the State of Texas, in his good vices and his beliefs in the equality of all, to reflect upon a decision that is about to be made in the State of Texas, and that is a decision in 2011 to issue a Confederate license plate. Confederate—the same group of individuals who opted to secede from the Union.

I am here as someone who applauds and appreciates the sacrifice that any person in uniform makes. I will not step away from the idea that much blood was shed in the Civil War. But what I am offering to say is that in 2011 it would be a disgrace, it would be outrageous, to uplift the Confederacy on a license plate in the State of Texas. Let me tell you why.

First of all, one of the most heinous tragedies of this great country's history was the holding of slaves. More importantly, millions of slaves destined for the United States and the Americas died in that dark passage before they even got to this soil. The brutality of slavery is without doubt and without question. The State of Texas continued slavery for 2 years longer than any other place in the United States because we did not get notice for 2 years after President Lincoln declared the Emancipation Proclamation. Who wants to ignite and remind you of that kind of devastating history?

And so, as the Texas Motor Vehicle Department makes a decision, I beg of their members to recognize that this is not a uniting action but a dividing action, because the action will be a State-issued plate that would affirm the brutality against African Americans, against slaves, against the ancestors who paid with their life to build this country. There was no debt ever paid for the 400 years of slavery, for the dividing of families, the brutality against children, the hanging and brutality that continued even into Jim Crow.

And as we look to the honoring of the monument of Dr. Martin Luther King this coming week, I beg of my fellow Texans on this board to recognize that this is a national issue. It is a national issue of prominence because to issue a Confederate license plate is to go and do what many States have undone—the removing of the symbols of the Confed-

eracy, the taking away of the "Rebel" name for the University of Texas. Why? Because they believe in moving America forward and focusing on such things as bringing our troops home and honoring them, focusing on such things as creating jobs. And how heinous would it be for the State of Texas, one of the largest States in the Nation, to have its young men who are of African American heritage on the front lines of Iraq and Afghanistan to come home and have to look at a Confederate license plate.

□ 1220

This is not free speech. This is not freedom of speech. Because anyone who desires to promote that particular life and legacy, they are so allowed to do so. They may print anything in the privacy of their home, wear anything, put anything on their front yard, their back yard, but not a State-issued plate with Texas dollars embedded inside of that particular symbol. America is greater than that.

I love this country. All of us are patriots because we love this Nation no matter what side of the aisle. And I might remind you, Madam Speaker, that a Republican state senator—I want to thank him—has indicated that we should not have this kind of symbol in Texas.

I beg you, Mr. Perry, tonight to speak to your higher angels and talk about bringing us together. Do not issue a confederate license plate in the State of Texas for God's sake. And God bless America.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to direct their remarks to the Chair.

## RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 21 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until 2 p.m.

□ 1400

## AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mrs. ROBY) at 2 p.m.

## PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer: Eternal God, we give You thanks for giving us another day.

On this day we ask Your blessing on the men and women, citizens all, whose votes have populated this people's House. Each Member of this House has been given the sacred duty of representing them.

O Lord, we pray that those with whom our Representatives met during

this past long weekend in their home districts be blessed with peace and an assurance that they have been listened to.

We ask Your blessing now on the Members of this House, whose responsibility lies also beyond the local interests of constituents while honoring them. Give each Member the wisdom to represent both local and national interests, a responsibility calling for the wisdom of Solomon. Grant them, if You will, a double portion of such wisdom.

Bless us this day and every day, and may all that is done within the people's House this day be for Your greater honor and glory.

Amen.

## THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House her approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

## PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. MARKEY led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

## COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
Washington, DC, October 7, 2011.

Hon. JOHN A. BOEHNER,  
The Speaker, House of Representatives,  
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in clause 2(h) of rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on October 7, 2011 at 12:10 p.m.:

That the Senate passed with an amendment H.R. 2944.

That the Senate passed S. 1639.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

KAREN L. HAAS.

## JOB CREATION STARTS WITH LOW TAXES, NOT CLASS WARFARE

(Ms. FOXX asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. FOXX. Madam Speaker, President Obama and his liberal allies in the Senate are at it again. After proposing a new \$447 billion stimulus bill last month, the President has seen the bill